Shortwave is the only part of the radio spectrum in which long distance communications is possible without the aid of a human-made relay, and its accompanying gatekeeper. Think of it as an endangered habitat. When power line noise become omnipresent on 2-30 Mhz, the unique capabilities of shortwave will be lost forever.

If a disaster should occur in a U.S. city, we can expect that convention communications circuits will become unusable due to overuse or line disruptions. Local radio and television stations may be off the air. For vital information, those lucky enough to own shortwave radios will hear announcements from the White House via WWCR in Nashville, which every Saturday broadcasts the president's weekly radio address. For news from the rest of the world, they will be able to hear BBC World Service, which will lay on additional shortwave transmitters, just as it does to any part of the world in crisis.

Shortwave is vital because of its independence from landlines, satellites, and gatekeepers. Please do not let anything interfere with shortwave.